consecutive amino acids of a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID Nos. [2N, where N=1-56] 32, 40, 58, 62, 68, 86, 88, 94, and 112, wherein the recombinant polynucleotide alters the plant's disease tolerance or resistance when compared with the same trait of another plant lacking the recombinant polynucleotide.

2. (Once Amended) The transgenic plant of claim 1, wherein the nucleotide sequence encodes a polypeptide comprising a conserved domain selected from the group consisting of conserved domains provided in Figure 1 for SEQ ID Nos. [2N, where N=1-56] 32, 40, 58, 62, 68, 86, 88, 94, and 112.

3. The transgenic plant of claim 1, wherein the recombinant polynucleotide further comprises a promoter operably linked to said nucleotide sequence.

4. (Once Amended) The transgenic plant of claim 3, wherein said promoter is constitutive or inducible or [tissue-active] tissue-preferred.

5. (Once Amended) A method for altering the disease tolerance or resistance of a plant, said method comprising (a) transforming a plant with a recombinant polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide comprising at least 6 consecutive amino acids of a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID Nos. [2N, where N=1-56] 32, 40, 58, 62, 68, 86, 88, 94, and 112, [(b) selecting said transformed plants]; and [(c)] (b) identifying a transformed plant having an altered disease tolerance or resistance.

6. (Once Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the nucleotide sequence encodes a polypeptide comprising a conserved domain selected from the group consisting of conserved domains provided in Figure 1 for SEQ ID Nos. [2N, where N=1-56] 32, 40, 58, 62, 68, 86, 88, 94, and 112.

7. The method of claim 5, wherein the recombinant polynucleotide further comprises a promoter operably linked to said nucleotide sequence.

8. (Once Amended) The method of claim [7] 8, wherein said promoter is constitutive or inducible or [tssue-active] tissue-preferred.

9. (Once Amended) A method for altering the expression levels of at least one gene in a plant, said method comprising (a) transforming the plant with a recombinant polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide comprising at least 6 consecutive amino acids of a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID Nos. [2N, where N=1-56] 32, 40, 58, 62, 68, 86, 88, 94, and 112.; and (b) [selecting said transformed plant] identifying a transformed plant having an altered disease tolerance or resistance.

10. (Once Amended) The method of claim [10] 9, wherein said recombinant polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide comprising a conserved domain selected from the group consisting of conserved domains provided in Figure 1 for SEQ ID Nos. [2N, where N=1-56] 32, 40, 58, 62, 68, 86, 88, 94, and 112.

11. (Once Amended) The method of claim [10] 9, wherein the nucleotide sequence further comprises a promoter operably linked to said nucleotide sequence.